

West of the Pecos

PUBLIC ART COLLECTION IDENTIFICATION SUMMARY



Number: 0031

Artist: Westphal, Rolf

Title: West of the Pecos

Date: June 6, 1975

Type: Sculpture

Medium: Steel

Dimensions: 25' x 22' x 48'

Foundry/Fabricator: Armco Steel Corp.
/ F.N. Tham

Location/Environment: George Bush
Intercontinental Airport, Outdoors

Provenance: x

Historical Background

West of the Pecos symbolizes the gateway to the fabled Texas frontier. The Pecos River, in West Texas, served as the unofficial dividing line between civilization and the "Wild West," during the late 1800's.

Physical Description

West of the Pecos is a large abstract steel sculpture supported by three square concrete pads. The surface is smooth and painted bright yellow.

The sculpture is composed of three steel pieces joined by welds, bolts, and cables and rests on three legs. An inscribed steel plaque is attached to the lower edge of one leg. The name of the fabricator (*FAB BY/ F.N. THAMM*) appears beneath the plaque in weld beads. The welder's name (*WELD By/ D. LIGHT*) appears on the opposite leg, also in weld beads.

The plaque reads as follows:

"WEST OF THE PECOS"/ BY: Rolf Westphal/ 4-6-75/ DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF J.T. NEWBERRY/ ENGINEERED, FABRICATED & ERECTED BY/ ARMCO STEEL CORP.